

Hawaii MARINE

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Hussein to face trial soon

Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein will soon go to trial, a senior Iraqi judge said during a Sunday news conference in Baghdad, Iraq.

Judge Raed Juhi, the chief judge of Iraq's special tribunal, said the trial date is expected to be set "within days," according to press reports.

Saddam and three other former regime members will stand trial for a July 8, 1982, massacre in Dujail, Iraq, following a failed assassination attempt against the former presi-

dent. Iraqi security forces, acting on Saddam's orders, allegedly massacred an estimated 150 villagers.

Also facing trial are Barzan al-Tikriti, Saddam's half brother and former chief of Iraqi intelligence; Taha Yassin Ramadan, former vice president; and Awad Hamed al-Bandar, former chief of the Revolutionary Court, press reports said.

Meanwhile, Iraqi investigators are continuing to prepare charges of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide against Saddam and former regime members in 12 other cases. They include the 1988

chemical attack on the Kurdish village of Halabja, which left 5,000 dead, and the brutal crushing of a Shiite revolt in southern Iraq in 1991.

Juhi said the investigation into those cases is "in its final stages."

U.S. forces captured Saddam, who was hiding in a spider hole near his hometown of Tikrit, in December 2003. The Iraqi government maintains legal custody of the former dictator, although Multinational Force Iraq officials have physical custody of him at the Iraqi government's request, defense officials said.

Saddam's upcoming trial is

expected to help bolster the security situation in Iraq, Foreign Minister Hoyshar Zebari said during a June interview.

Zebari said the evidence against the former dictator is staggering — from mass graves of those who opposed him to the laundry list of atrocities he inflicted against his own people. "Every family has suffered from the rule of Saddam Hussein, so there is no lack of evidence whatsoever," Zebari said. "There is an abundance of evidence to try and prosecute him."

The Iraqi government "is very committed to putting Saddam and

other members of his former regime on trial, and I personally think that this will impact the security situation," the foreign minister said.

"It is very important that we start — the sooner the better," he said. "That is the view of this government. It is a widely shared view across the country."

Saddam will "be eligible for all the benefits of a free trial" and to choose his own defense team, Zebari said. "We will give him the same justice he has denied us for many years," he said.

The final verdict, he said, "will speak for Iraqi justice."

Movie man



Sgt. Robert M. Storm

Sgt. Wil L. Santiago, combat videographer, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, rides in an Army Blackhawk helicopter to a forward operating base in Afghanistan. Santiago records Marines' activities for historical purposes and takes footage of all major roads and cities to be analyzed by specialists for information and route planning purposes. Marines from 2/3 have been in Afghanistan since mid June in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

COLA survey is now online

Press Release

U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific

CAMP H.M. SMITH, Hawaii — U.S. Pacific Command is encouraging all uniformed service members stationed in the state of Hawaii to participate in a Cost of Living Allowance Living Pattern Survey to help determine our COLA rate for the upcoming year. The Living Pattern survey which is conducted once every three years as required by the Department of Defense is available online from Aug. 1 to September at www.perdiem.osd.mil/oscola/lps/hawaii.

COLA is an allowance paid to service members stationed in high-cost areas overseas. Its purpose is to compensate members for differences in the cost of living between the continental United States and their assigned location outside of the continental United States.

The Living Pattern Survey seeks information on where service members shop and dine and how much they buy from military exchanges and commissaries.

"The last COLA survey conducted in Hawaii was in 2003. Eleven thousand, seventy-two uniform service members responded out of the nearly forty-five thousand eligible personnel stationed here," said Eddie Fowler, a Personnel Policy Officer with U.S. Pacific Command Manpower, Personnel, and Administration Directorate. "It's in every service members' interest to complete the survey to ensure the results accurately reflect the cost of living here in Hawaii."

The Manpower, Personnel, and Administration office of U.S. Pacific Command is the lead activity for the survey.

Extensive service component, Coast Guard, U.S. Public Health Service and N.O.A.A support is needed to ensure that the survey results are accurate. "All uniformed service personnel in Hawaii are highly encouraged to participate," said Fowler. "The Living Pattern Survey data will affect military COLA rates one way or the other. The most important thing is that people participate."

IPAC sponsors base blood drive

Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Combat Correspondent

"It's great to see everyone getting together for the purpose to donate," said Cpl. Rex Gonzalez, second stage clerk, inbound section, Installation Personnel Administration Center, Headquarters Battalion, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. "You never know if your blood will save the life of your brother in arms, or even your own family."

Gonzalez organized the Armed Services Blood Program blood drive that was held July 13, on the second floor of Building 1033, to raise and maintain the current supply of blood that would be available throughout the Pacific region. The

Denver, Colo. native said his efforts to organize blood drives came after his son John, who was born 16 weeks premature, was in need and was given donated blood.

"We raised more than 30 pints of blood during the drive for my son in Okinawa," said Gonzalez. "The moment we arrived in Hawaii, my first mission was to donate blood. I donated twice at Tripler Army Medical Center and then began organizing blood drives here on base."

This was the second official IPAC blood drive on base that Gonzalez has organized. He said he was very pleased that so many units took the time to donate.

See BLOOD, A-8



Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Cpl. Xavier Cameron, field wireman/switchboard operator, 3rd Marine Regiment, donates blood at the IPAC blood drive on July 13.

Pace visits troops in Afghanistan, examines progress

Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — When Gen. Peter Pace, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, visited Afghanistan July 11 to 13, the gratitude of the people was proof to him that progress is being made in the country.

Gen. Pace made his unannounced trip to Afghanistan primarily to thank service members in the country, an official who traveled with him said.

"It is always good to see first-

hand what is going on in a place," Col. Katie Haddock, the vice chairman's spokeswoman, said. "This was the general's first visit to the country since last November, and he was impressed with the progress he saw there. The markets are full; billboards are up advertising items; kids are going to school; there are vehicles on the streets; and there are repairs being made."

Gen. Pace met with Afghan President Hamid Karzai; Army Lt. Gen. Karl Eikenberry, the commander of Combined Forces

Command Afghanistan; Turkish Army Lt. Gen. Ethem Erdagi, International Security Assistance Force commander; and Army Maj. Gen. Jason Kamiyah, commander of Combined Joint Task Force 76.

He visited U.S. and Afghan officials in Kabul, Bagram, and Forward Operating Base Langman.

Gen. Pace said he is impressed with the progress that has been made and the feeling in the populace. He said the mood is good in the country as the Sept. 18 national-assembly and provincial elections approach.



Gen. Peter Pace, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, talks to service members while visiting Forward Operating Base Langman, Afghanistan, July 13. Pace was in Afghanistan to thank the service members for what they have accomplished while deployed in the global war against terrorism.

Air Force Staff Sgt. D. Myles Cullen

NEWS BRIEFS

3/3 Memorial

A memorial for fallen Marines of 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, will be held at 2 p.m., today, between hangars 101 and 102.

On-Base Emergency Number Change

For on-base emergencies (police/fire/ambulance), you must use the “911” exchange. This applies to both on-base and off-base emergency calls. Please update fire bills, telephone stickers and evacuation plans immediately. Telephone stickers can be obtained by visiting the Base Safety Center.

For more info call the Base Safety Center at 257-1830.

Road Work to Cause Lane Closures

KD Construction, Inc. will be performing hot asphalt patchwork to repair depressions made in the road due to trench work in the areas of Daly Road, McLennan Drive, Mokapu Road and Lawrence Road. The repair work will take place Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.; single-lane closures will be held at the repair site that is estimated for one to two hours.

Point of contact for this matter is Mr. Andrew Gasper, tenant relations manager, Family Housing Department, 257-1257 ext. 287.

HI 5¢ Redemption Changes

HI 5¢ redemption services have changed on base. There will no longer be service on Tuesdays. Friday redemption hours will change to 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The redemption truck will continue to be located in the parking lot across from the PX Annex.

For more information, call Jim Seibert, Base Recycling, at 257-4300

Traffic to Base Housing to be Affected

Until Friday, traffic along Harris Avenue will be affected by the installation of curbs, gutters and sidewalks; and also from Monday to Sept. 2, and again from Sept. 12 to 30.

All work will be conducted Mondays through Fridays from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. No work will be done on holidays.

For further information, contact Mr. Andrew Gasper, Tenant Relations Manager at 257-1257 ext. 287.

HPA seeks military nominees

The Hawaii Psychological Association, in cooperation with the American Psychological Association, announced the 5th Annual Healthy Workplace Awards to promote psychological health in the workplace.

HPA has recognized several exemplary military units in past years. Each has modeled one or more “Best Practices” in the five areas that make up the award criteria: health, safety and security, employee involvement, career development, family support and community service. Awards are available for large and small businesses, nonprofit organizations, the government and the military.

Military units are invited to apply now. Deadline to submit an application is Aug. 1. Applications are available online at www.hawaii.psych.org or by calling HPA at 521-8995.

Weekend Hours for Mess Hall

Dinner hours for Anderson Hall mess hall on weekends and holidays are 3 to 5 p.m.

Read the *Hawaii Marine* Online

To access the *Hawaii Marine* online, log on to www.mcbh.usmc.mil and click on the “*Hawaii Marine*” link. The current newspaper and past issues are available.

Important Phone Numbers

On-Base Emergencies	257-9111
Military Police	257-7114
Child Protective Service	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852
Business Management Hotline	257-3188
Pothole & Streetlight Repair	257-2380
Base Information	449-7110

Hawaii MARINE

Base Commander	Col. Michael C. O’Neal
Base Sergeant Major	Sgt. Maj. Anthony E. Franks
Public Affairs Officer	Maj. Patricia Johnson
Public Affairs Chief	Gunnery Sgt. Claudia LaMantia
Managing Editor	Millie Perera
News Editor	Kristin Herrick
Lifestyles Editor	Susana Choy
Sports Editor	Sgt. Joseph A. Lee
Staff Writer	Sgt. Joe Lindsay
Staff Writer	Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson
Staff Writer	Cpl. Rich Mattingly
Press Chief	Cpl. Megan L. Stiner
Staff Writer	Pfc. Roger L. Nelson

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2/3 greets new commander

1st Lt. Anthony Del Signore

Combined Joint Task Force 76

JALALABAD AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Surrounded by the eastern Afghan mountains 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, 3rd Marine Division, held a change of command ceremony Friday.

The Marines welcomed Lt. Col. James E. Donnellan and bid farewell to Lt. Col. Andrew R. MacMannis as the battalion colors were passed from one commanding officer to the other.

“Marines of 2/3, you have a great reputation. I am only hopping on the train with

you,” said Donnellan to his Marines. “I hope to give the title of commanding officer justice.”

Donnellan, who was previously assigned as ground and expeditionary operation officer for Marine Forces Atlantic, took over a battalion that has been involved in the Global War on Terrorism in Afghanistan for approximately one month.

After the change of command ceremony, Donnellan thanked his family for their support.

“My family has really sacrificed as much or more than I have,” said Donnellan. “I am doing what I signed up to do, and what I

love to do. But that is not what my wife signed up for and that’s not what my kids signed up for, so they are really making a huge sacrifice, and I really appreciate it.”

Col. Patrick Donahue, commanding officer of Regional Command East, Afghanistan, spoke with Donnellan and his Marines about what will be expected of them while they are in country.

“This is an important day in the history of 2/3 Marines and the combine joint area of operations,” said Donahue “The Marines look magnificent today, as always.

“Lieutenant Colonel Jim Donnellan — welcome to Devil Task Force,” continued Donahue. “You have a great reputation, and I know you will lead well. What I charge you to do is to take this high-performing unit and build upon the solid foundation that Lieutenant Colonel MacMannis left you, and continue to excel. Most importantly, I want you to find and defeat the enemy of the Government of Afghanistan.”

Col. Chris Blanchard, commanding officer, Marine Coordination Element, Afghanistan, awarded MacMannis his fourth Meritorious Service Medal, which recognized his achievements as commanding officer for 2/3 from July 2003 to July 2005.

Before leaving, MacMannis offered advise that he thought would help sustain them throughout their support to the War on Terrorism.

“You Marines need to stick to the basics, and continue doing what you know is right,” said MacMannis. “You know your job, and you know how to instill discipline in those you lead.”

“Enjoy your time here as well,” continued MacMannis. “There are times you can enjoy yourselves with the local Afghan people, and you should take advantage of every opportunity that you have out here.”

COMMENTARY

SOCOM raises new kind of identity theft

Master Sgt.

Sheldon A. Comer

Base Inspector's Office

I read an article in the June 20th issue of the *Marine Times* titled “Corps Commandos.” It

was about 2,500 Marines possibly being sent to Special Operations Command. I can understand the desire to have Marines in any origination, but the real question is “Why?” and “What’s in it for the Marines?”

Transformation sounds good to the Army, but what are they trying to transform into? The problem is SOCOM wants to be the new Marine Corps. The inclusion of two battalions of Marines — ironically that’s what we started with 230 years ago — benefits only SOCOM. What’s in it for the Marine Corps?

SOCOM doesn’t want

these Marines to associate with other Marines or do Marine Corps training; they want them to learn new and additional skills. These Marines also won’t be able to return to the Fleet Marine Force. So the Corps now loses skills and Marines.

Let’s say a potential recruit comes to your recruiting station and says, “I want to be a Special Operations Marine.” Question. Would he really be a Marine? Would that individual have the “pride of belonging” which is the hallmark and one of the biggest drawing points of our Corps? Would he have the shared experience and comradeship of being a Marine? The best

part of being a Marine is being with your brothers and sisters.

The article discussed the fear SOCOM has of stationing these Marines, if acquired, aboard Marine Corps installations! The fear is the Marine Corps will have them do “typical Marine Corps things.” If you’re not doing typical Marine Corps things, then you’re not a Marine. Marines do Marine things. What benefit is it to us if we allow 2,500 of our people to join the new corps? Would they actually still be Marines? What benefit is this new group, overall, to the country — when we

See *IDENTITY, A-5*



ADRION

CPRW-2

Change of Command

Navy Capt. Robert J. Adrion will relieve Navy Capt. William F. Moran as commander of Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two, during a change of command ceremony at 10 a.m., Aug 1, at Hangar 105, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. Adrion is reporting to Wing Two from the Joint Staff as the Deputy Division Chief and Division Chief for the J-3 Reconnaissance Operations Division. Moran will report to the National Defense University.



MORAN



WHITMORE

VR-51

Change of Command

Navy Cmdr. Steven E. Whitmore will relieve Navy Cmdr. Patrick J. Barrett as commander, Fleet Logistics Support Squadron 51, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, during a change of command ceremony in Hangar 105 at noon on Friday. Whitmore served as the executive officer for the squadron and is now moving up to take the position as commanding officer for the “Windjammers.”



BARRETT

Weekend weather outlook

Today



Day — Partly cloudy skies through the day; northeasterly winds at 8 to 10 mph

Night — Partly cloudy skies until morning; east-northeasterly winds at 8 to 12 mph

High — 83
Low — 76

Saturday



Day — Partly to mostly cloudy skies by afternoon; northeasterly winds at 10 to 12 mph and gusts of 14 to 18 mph

Night — Mostly cloudy skies with isolated light rain showers after sunset; east-northeasterly winds at 12 to 14 mph and gusts of 16 to 18 mph

High — 82 **Low — 75**

Sunday



Day — Mostly cloudy skies with isolated morning showers then partly cloudy skies; easterly winds at 10 to 14 mph and gusts 15 to 20 mph

Night — Partly cloudy skies then mostly cloudy skies with isolated showers by morning; easterly winds at 12 mph and gust of 15 to 20 mph

High — 82
Low — 76

Becoming BATTLE READY

1/3 trains for upcoming Afghanistan deployment

Story and Photos By
Cpl. Megan L. Stiner

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, Hawaii — The Marines of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, spent last week performing training exercises at the Military Operations in Urban Terrain area aboard Schofield Barracks.

For three full days, the Marines participated in instructional training movements such as patrolling through the MOUT town, clearing buildings, throwing grenades, aggressing with diminution rounds, conducting land navigation and night operations, and other urban warfare exercises.

A primary focus was familiarizing the newer Marines with the basics of MOUT training and working with the more experienced Marines.

“I was involved in the attack on Fallujah,” said Lance Cpl. Adam R. Morrison, squad leader, 1st Platoon, Alpha Company, 1/3. “The biggest advantage in that combat environment was working together.”

Morrison, a Tacoma, Wash. native, said one of the reasons the MOUT training is the first field exercise the Marines are participating in since they returned from deployment to Iraq is that the skills taught throughout the evolution have a lot to do with working as a team and having to depend on each other in order for the training to be successful.

“Although a lot of the Marines in the company are right out of school (School of Infantry),” said Morrison, “they have jumped right into the training and have been more than eager and motivated to learn as much as they can.”

According to Pfc. Mike G. Panarello, rifleman, 2nd Platoon, Alpha Company, 1/3, the knowledge and experiences he gained during one week in the field was more beneficial to him than all the knowledge he gained in SOI.

“It is different training with the Marines that you are actually in a unit with,” he explained. “Everyone looks out for each other, and the more everyone knows, the

better you work together as a team. If we have questions about anything, the senior Marines are more than willing to answer our questions. The more we know, the better we will work as a team in the future, so it is a beneficial system for everyone.”

The Marines said they experienced very little downtime during the rainy three-day and three-night evolution.

“The weather has been wet,” said Pfc. Josh G. Marshall, point man, 2nd Platoon, Alpha

Company, 1/3, “but we are still out here training. Since I arrived, I’ve only had a couple days to adjust before I came out to the field. I like it that way, though — because I don’t like downtime. I came here to train for Afghanistan and that’s what we’re doing.”

Marshall and Panarello agree that the senior Marines possess strong leadership qualities and added the fact that when the time comes for their unit to deploy to Afghanistan, they think

they will be more than prepared for any challenge that awaits them.

“Of course everyone is nervous,” said the Houston, Texas native, “but that is why we are out getting ourselves prepared now. All of the newer guys look up to the senior Marines and try to take in as much knowledge as we can, because they have been to combat and that is where we are headed.”



Center — Marines with 1st Platoon, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, rush toward their objective, a house at the MOUT facility, Schofield Barracks, July 14. The Marines were conducting a building-clearing exercise inside a three-story building.

Above — Sgt. Tullet, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, points his rifle at the corner of a building from his position inside one of the buildings at the MOUT facility, Schofield Barracks, July 14. The Marines shot simulation rounds throughout the exercise so they could visibly see where their rounds were impacting.

Top — Lance Cpl. Sieter, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, peaks around the corner of a building in the MOUT facility, Schofield Barracks, July 14. Sieter acted as one of the combatants who were hiding inside a building while squads cleared the buildings with simulation rounds.

Above — Marines with 1st Platoon, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, provide cover for fellow Marines during a building clearing exercise at the MOUT facility, Schofield Barracks, July 14.



Two squads of Marines with 3rd Platoon, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, line up against the wall as they prepare to act as aggressors during a training exercise at Schofield Barracks.

Southern food wins over judges

Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson
Combat Correspondent

The Chef of the Quarter competition for the Fourth Quarter 2005 competition was underway at the Anderson Hall mess hall and once again only one person was left standing at the end for the win. Judges all agreed — the competition was extremely tough.

This quarter, Cpl. Adrian Sanchez, food service specialist, Marine Corps Air Facility, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, took the victory with his southern style menu.

“This was my first Chef of the Quarter competition, and I have to admit that it was pretty scary going into it,” admitted the San Diego native. “I wanted to pick a kind of food that I love, because I wanted the people to experience something from me. Southern dishes are my favorite, and that's what I ended up going for.”

Sanchez said he has been cooking since he was 8 years old and has been doing it ever since. At first, he would create simple dinners that he would make for his sister, and after awhile he became more creative with the meals he fixed.

After graduating from Helix High School, Sanchez decided he would enlist in the United States Marine Corps.

“I always wanted to do something to make my father proud,” said the 22-year-old. “He didn’t see me taking this career path, and it shocked him. It's now been five years since I’ve joined, and he's been happy ever since.”

With his love of cooking, Sanchez happily took the opportunity to strengthen his culinary skills and became a food preparation specialist. Continuously working hard at his job is what he said earned him the opportunity to prove himself during the Chef of the Quarter competition.

After answering the questions asked of the chefs in this quarter's competition and com-

pleting a written examination, the five finalists entered the final leg of the competition at Anderson Hall. On July 13, each chef watched as meals were tasted and judged by a panel of service members who decided the final outcome.

Sanchez came away the winner with his five-course meal that consisted of double-dipped deviled fried chicken, Aunt Sarah’s secret macaroni and cheese, southern-style sweet potatoes, jalapeño hot cakes, and caramelized-fudge pecan brownies. It took approximately three days to prepare the entire meal, with full portions.

“It was hectic — trying to get everything

done on time, but everyone competing was more then willing to help everyone else,” said Sanchez. “I thought it would be a really cut-throat competition, but I was completely wrong.”

Lance Cpl. Angelina Grillo, food service specialist, 3rd Radio Battalion, who also competed in the competition with her southern European/Italian themed meal, agreed that the competition was stiff.

“This competition was harder than I expected it would be, but everyone worked really hard and did really well,” said the St. Clair Shores, Mich. native. “I think since we were all in the same stressful situation, we all wanted to help

each other through. Sanchez did a great job, though, and deserved the win.”

Sanchez said he now has to think about preparing for the upcoming Chef of the Year competition, but he will take what he learned from this competition and apply it to the yearly competition.

“This was a great experience, and I learned a lot about what I need to do to improve myself even more,” said Sanchez. “The only thing that could have made this day better for me was if I had my daughter, Lily Blossom, here with me.”



Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Col. Michael O’Neal (front left), base commander, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, and Sgt. Maj. Anthony Franks, base sergeant major, congratulate all the competitors of the Chef of the Quarter competition, July 13.



Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Cpl. Adrian Sanchez, food service specialist, Marine Corps Air Facility, says a few words about the competition after his win.



Lance Cpl. Jordan M Welner

Gen. Michael W. Hagee (left), commandant of the Marine Corps, attaches three new streamers to the official battle colors of the Marine Corps during Marine Barracks Washington's Evening Parade, Friday.

Streamers for Iraq, Afghanistan and Kosovo campaigns added

Lance Cpl. Jordan M. Welner
Marine Barracks 8th & I

MARINE BARRACKS WASHINGTON, WASHINGTON — Three new campaign streamers were added to the official battle colors of the Marine Corps during Marine Barracks Washington's Evening Parade, Friday.

The commandant of the Marine Corps, General Michael W. Hagee, affixed the Afghanistan Campaign streamer, Iraq Campaign streamer and “Global War on Terrorism” serv-

ice streamer during a special ceremony in which their corresponding medals were formally established to recognize Marines in service after 2001.

The executive order signed at the White House by President George W. Bush states, “These medals shall be awarded to members of the uniformed services of the United States who serve or have served in Afghanistan or contiguous air space, as defined by such regulations, on or after Oct. 24, 2001; who serve or have

served in Iraq or contiguous waters or air space, as defined by such regulations, on or after March 19, 2003; and who serve or have served in military operations to combat terrorism, as defined by such regulations, on or after Sept. 11, 2001; and all of which before a terminal date to be prescribed by the secretary of defense.”

The last streamer to be added to the battle colors was the Kosovo Campaign streamer, awarded for service in various Kosovo operations beginning in 1999.



Sgt. Robert M. Storm
Cpl. Ryan P. Tellez, food service specialist, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, and Lima, Ohio native, grills up a special steak dinner in honor of the Fourth of July, while deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

IDENTITY, From A-2

already have a trained experienced, loyal and willing organization with the professional renown the Marine Corps is known for? Why not employ the current Corps with these alleged special skills? Every Marine Expeditionary Unit is Special Operations Capable qualified so what's the big deal? Is it finances?

The Marine Corps is the only force that can fight 30 days without re-supply. We're pretty self-contained, and the Navy takes us wherever we want to go. Better still — the money is already allotted.

My core question is why? Why even consider the idea? Marines join the Marine Corps to be Marines — not something else. When I was a recruiter, the number one question was: Do you want to be a Marine? That was it. One thing I learned on recruiting duty was there's a consistent level in the population that wants to join the Marine Corps, and that level never changes. I was a wartime recruiter during Operation Desert Storm I, and warriors consistently showed up at my door looking for a job. Guess which one? Right! Marine. Let's face it, we do what we do, and we do it better than anyone else. SOCOM is not the Marines and any Marine in it isn't a Marine, either. SOCOM lacks intangibles like loyalty, unity, history, professionalism, the core values, and the pride of belonging that make us different. We joined to be Marines. That makes us special ops.

Marine cooks work wonders

2/3 food service specialists hurdle obstacles to serve hot meals in field

Sgt. Robert M. Storm
Combat Correspondent

ASAD ABAD, Afghanistan — It is a job that is often overlooked and rarely appreciated. The average shift lasts 14 to16 hours a day throughout the week in temperatures consistently above 100 degrees Fahrenheit. Despite the conditions, the food service specialists from 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, prove they can work miracles in a kitchen designed to provide meals for only 250 by fixing meals for 600 to 900 Marines.

“It usually isn’t noticed, but chow is one of the biggest morale boosters or worst let downs you can have,” said Sgt. Stephen L. Targos, food service specialist, from Missoula, Mont. “Chow is a Marine’s time to chill out after coming in from a patrol, serving guard duty, or whatever. It’s time to socialize with fellow Marines, and we do our best to give them hot, good chow for that time.”

The job of a food service specialist includes: the acquisition of food, supplies and equipment; menu and recipe planning; meal preparation and serving; sanitation; and operation and management of facilities. These specialists attend an eight-week training course. The first two weeks are spent on basic safety and sanitation, followed by two weeks of basic cooking. During this period, the Marines are taught simple recipes for gravy, biscuits and cinnamon rolls. During the last four weeks, they are taught field cooking, which includes learning skills such as

converting recipes that match the number of people being served, setting-up field mess areas using military vehicles, and cooking out in the field. Along with all these duties comes arduous hours — since the mission must be met three times a day, seven days a week. Because of the long hours that they have to put in, meeting other Marine Corps requirements is sometimes difficult.

“I don’t think I’ve had a set schedule since I’ve been in the Marine Corps,” said Cpl. Ryan P. Tellez, food service specialist, from Lima, Ohio. “We try to look out for each other by covering shifts, so we can go to the

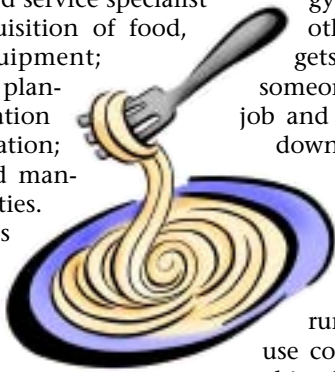
gym and stuff. We’re not like other MOSs, when somebody gets hurt or sick, that means someone else has to do their own job and cover for the Marine that’s down.”

Rumors also abound about the quality of food that Marines eat. Food service specialists do their best to squash those rumors. All of the meat they use comes from the United States and is of high quality. Fresh produce is shipped in from the Philippines, Thailand, and even Australia. However, according to these specialists, despite the historically bad reputation that military food has, very few Marines complain about the food.

“It’s better than what I was expecting. I thought we would be eating MREs the whole time,” said Cpl. Frank Carrillo, radio operator, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, from Reedley, Calif. “There is always a pretty good variety, and I even look forward to Friday night when we get crab legs.”

While 2/3 cooks say that there are few complaints, they also say that it just wouldn’t be the Marine Corps without a little bit of humor to add to the job.

“Marines always want something special, and they’ll say just about anything to get us to do it for them,” said Tellez. “I had one Marine say that he needed fresh scrambled eggs because he was allergic to omelets.”



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EFV crewman plans on career with Corps

Cpl. Megan L. Stiner
Press Chief

After graduating High School, the San Fernando Valley, Calif. native was determined to join what he knew to be the best fighting force in the world, after friends and family told him that he would never make it as a United States Marine.

Now, six years into his career, Sgt. Manuel A. Rios, Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle crewman, Amphibious Vehicle Testing Branch, Camp Pendleton, Calif., said he intends to remain in the Corps until retirement. According to Rios, it was a decision he made even before he graduated boot camp and earned the title “Marine.”

“When my friends and family said I couldn’t do it, it just made me want it more,” explained the 24-year-old. “Once I actually graduated and became a Marine, everyone was so proud of my accomplishment. I gained a lot of respect from everyone.”

Rios traveled from California to Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, along with more than 25 other individuals who specialize in the mechanics, operations and overall specifications of the Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle. The EFV, General Dynamics’ latest version of the amphibious assault vehicle, and its crew of civilians and Marines was brought to Hawaii to conduct capability tests in the waters of Kaneohe Bay, which offer a higher sea state in which to conduct tests.

One of the unique aspects of Rios’ job is the variety of tasks he is trained to perform.

“All of the EFV crewmen are skilled in maintenance because that is one of the things we do the most,” he said. “Other than that we all are trained to be drivers as well as vehicle commanders. We have to know the vehicle inside and out.”

The EFV, operated by a three-person crew, is currently in a prototype phase. Brought to Hawaii earlier this month, the vehicle is undergoing testing at Kaneohe Bay until mid September.

During his time in the Corps, Rios said that he was no stranger to going from one area of the world to another.

“I love traveling,” exclaimed Rios. “I have been to 13 different countries since I joined the Marine Corps, and I am always looking forward to where I might be headed next.”

Rios began his career in the Marines as an Amphibious Assault Vehicle crew chief. Although he said he originally wanted to be a tanker, he is happy with where his career has taken him.

“My most memorable time since I joined would have to be during my deployment to Iraq,” he explained. “Being a Marine, I wanted to go to combat and experience what it was like to be in the war. I imagine that is the attitude of most service members when they join the military.”

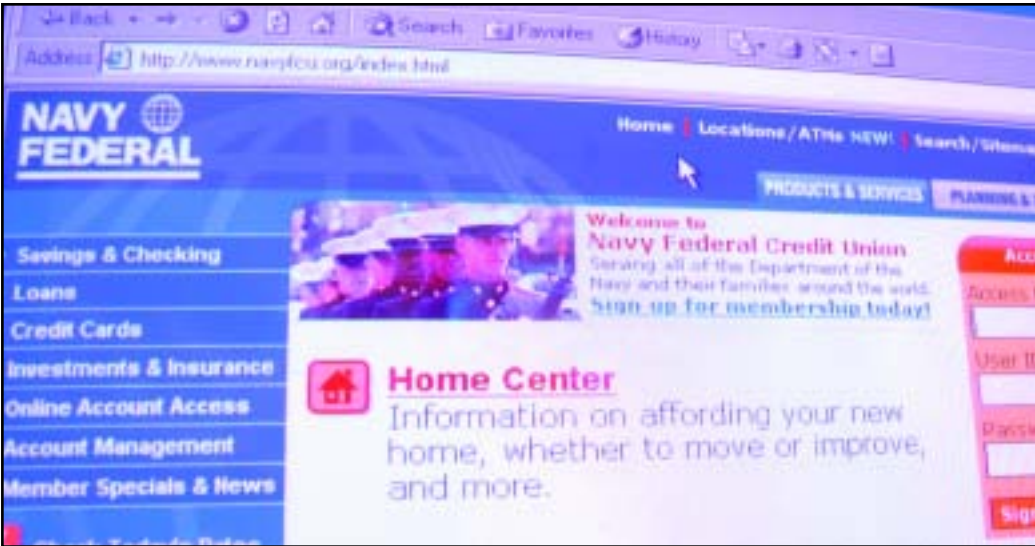
Rios explained, although he was apprehensive at times, as to whether or not he would make it back alive, he would still want to go back, just the same.

“I would love to return to Iraq in an EFV,” he said. “But if that doesn’t happen, I would want to continue to be a part of the Amtrak family until the EFV gets fleeted and then go overseas with it.”



Cpl. Megan L. Stiner

Sgt. Manuel Rios, EFV crewman, Amphibious Vehicle Training Branch, Camp Pendleton, Calif., poses next to an EFV, near Water Front Operations aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. The EFV and crewmembers are here testing the vehicle, which is still in its prototype phase.



Sgt. Danielle M. Bacon

This is an example of a fraudulent Web site portraying the Navy Federal Credit Union’s site. Navy Federal Credit Union recently announced a new fraud alert targeting Navy Federal bank members. The fraud comes in the form of an e-mail that greatly resembles Web pages from the Navy Federal Web site. The e-mail states that the user’s account has recently been reviewed and there are suspected unauthorized automated teller machine transactions on the account.

Navy Federal Credit Union announces new fraud alert

Lance Cpl. Bernadette L. Ainsworth

U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific

CAMP H.M. SMITH, Hawaii — Navy Federal Credit Union recently announced a new fraud alert targeting Navy Federal bank members.

The fraud comes in the form of an e-mail that greatly resembles Web pages from the Navy Federal Web site.

The e-mail states that the user’s account has recently been reviewed and there are suspected unauthorized automated teller machine transactions on the account, according to Navy Federal’s message.

The message then directs the user to log in to their Navy Federal account using the link provided to ensure their account has not been compromised.

Once logged in at the fraudulent Web site,

the user is prompted to enter personal and account information which includes name, social security number, date of birth, credit card number and expiration date, ATM personal identification number and e-mail address, according to Navy Federal’s message.

After the information has been entered, it can then be used in unauthorized transactions from your bank account and credit card.

There are many service members that bank with Navy Federal and some have received this e-mail.

“I got the e-mail before the alert came out,” said Sgt. Carlos Daniels, a legal administration clerk, here. “The best thing to do if you get one of those e-mails is to inform the bank it supposedly came from and delete it.

See ALERT, A-7

Did You Know?

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan designated July as National Ice Cream Month and the third Sunday of the month as National Ice Cream Day. He recognized ice cream as a fun and nutritious food that is enjoyed by a full 90 percent of the nation's population. In the proclamation, President Reagan called for all people of the United States to observe these events with “appropriate ceremonies and activities.”

Couple battles stresses of marriage, war

Cpl. C.J. Yard

2nd Force Service Support Group

CAMP TAQADDUM, Iraq — With the current rate of deployments for Marines, separation from their spouses and loved ones is a common thing. However, for some Marines whose spouse is also a Marine, not being separated during wartime is something more and more families have to deal with.

For Cpls. Michael D. and Nicole L. Hodina both of them being active duty presented challenges, but when they learned they were both deploying in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom they packed up their household goods and stepped onto the plane bound for Camp Taqaddum, Iraq.

“When we both found out that we would be deploying together, we knew it would be difficult,” said Nicole, a procurement specialist with Combat Logistics Regiment 25, 2nd Force Service Support Group (Forward). “We were glad that we would be deploying at the same time versus being rotated on different deployments. I couldn’t imagine spending a whole year away from my husband.”

Michael said he knew the chain of command and Marines working with Nicole before deploying and took comfort in that.

However, knowing professionalism would be demanded of them at all times, they found it hard to talk to each other as husband and wife.

“Our billeting areas were no more than one hundred yards apart, but with

no privacy we often found it difficult to even have a conversation,” said Michael, a 24-year-old Indianapolis native.

“I also found it to be very difficult to turn on and off the professional attitude that is demanded from Marines everyday. This is not a good thing when talking to your wife!” continued Michael, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of special projects, Supply Management Unit, CLR-25. “While our chain of command is supportive of our marriage they demand the professionalism that is necessary in a combat zone, and I would expect no less.”

According to Nicole, their chain of command is very supportive of their marriage.

“They ask and make sure everything is going alright,” said the 21-year-old. “They make sure there are no serious problems.”

Though they have been married for a year and eight months, Nicole said the difference of being together here is very noticeable.

“I think it is harder to be out here together than to be apart actually,” she said. “Yes, we get to see each other, but it’s not the same. It’s not like we got to spend time with each other as husband and wife. The time we did spend together was more like ‘friends’ than anything else.”

Even though the two can only claim one dependent, their dog, it was still hard for them to leave.

“We have no kids right now, just a dog,” said Nicole. “I couldn’t imagine us having children right now, with both of

us being out here. It was hard enough to leave the dog behind with my parents!”

Both were stationed here until about five months into the deployment when Nicole’s job required her to relocate to another base in the area of operation.

According to Nicole, it was easy being together knowing each other was okay, but with the distance between the two now she worries about her husband.

“Now that we are apart, there’s more of a worry,” she said. “All you can do is pray that nothing happens.”

Michael draws confidence knowing that his wife is a strong individual, but said his imagination can get the better of him sometimes.

“My wife can take care of herself, but I would like to be around just in case,” said Michael. “Your imagination can get the better of you wondering what is going on in the next camp. I want to see my wife at will. Not being able to see her even though she is only 15 miles away really gets to me.”

Knowing both he and his wife volunteered to serve their country, Michael knows the responsibilities that come with military service, but as a husband, he still feels safety is paramount for his wife.

“People often ask if I would rather have her here or back in the states,” said Michael. “As her husband I would much rather have her safe in the states and deal with being separated than put her life at risk. As a Marine, however, we both signed the contract and take the paycheck, so we will do our jobs until it is time to go home.”



Cpl. C.J. Yard

Cpls. Michael D. and Nicole L. Hodina stand for a photo while deployed to Iraq. The couple is married and are deployed 15 miles away from each other while supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

ALERT, From A-6

Banks will never send out e-mails like that.”

Lance Cpl. Justin Park, a reproduction clerk, here agrees that banks don’t send e-mails when something is wrong with an account.

“I know that Navy Fed would never send anything concerning my accounts through an e-mail, so when I got the e-mail, I didn’t believe that it was really from them,” he said.

Although bank fraud can happen to the most careful of people, there are some simple steps you can take to reduce this from happening, according to the ScamBusters Web site.

Pay attention. Log in to your account on a regular basis, even if you don’t have any transactions to do. Simply take a look. It only takes a moment to review your information so that you know what’s going on and to make sure nothing is wrong.

Keep it private. Don’t be tempted to do your online banking in the library or the local Internet cafe. You have no way of knowing who has access to that information or how they’ll treat it.

Initiate contact yourself. Don’t ever try to access your account through an e-mailed link no matter how much that e-mail looks like it came from your bank.

Check for secure connections. When you visit the bank’s Web site, make sure the page where you type your information always starts with https. The ‘s’ means that it is on a secure server.

Change your password regularly. Don’t tell anyone what it is or allow anyone else to use it. Even people you trust should not have access to your online banking password.

Install barriers. If you are doing online banking, your computer should have the following software installed:

- Firewalls ‘block the door’ to your computer so hackers can’t access the information on your hard drive.

- Spyware is any program that secretly downloads onto your system when you access the Internet.

The software gathers information about you and sends it to third parties who could be scammers waiting to steal your money.

- Scammers sometimes send virus programs by e-mail. Anti-virus software installed on your system can stop these.

If you suspect any suspicious activity, the best course of action is to report it immediately to the financial institution it concerns.

If someone needs to make a dispute or thinks he has been a victim of e-mail bank fraud, there are certain steps he needs to take.

- Contact the financial institution immediately, file a claim and cancel the credit card or checks that were used.

- Contact any of the three major credit bureaus, file a claim and request a credit report.

- Experian at (888) 397-3742
- Equifax at (800) 525-6285
- Transunion at (800) 680-7289

- Contact local authorities and file a claim — Honolulu Police Department at 529-3352

- Contact military authorities.
- Contact the Federal Trade Commission at www.consumer.gov/idtheft or file a report at the local legal assistance attorney at 477-8505.

To read the *Hawaii Marine* online, visit www.mcbh.usmc.mil.



Photos by Pfc. Roger L. Nelson

Final Farewell

Above — A photo of Cpl. John R. Cooper, rifleman, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, and a shadow box presented to his family are displayed during a memorial service for the young Marine, July 19. Cooper was born Sept. 5, 1983, at Camp Pendleton, Calif., and enlisted in the Marine Corps in 2001 while still in high school in Bonifay, Fla. Cooper passed away July 18.

Right — Lt. Col. James W. Bierman, commanding officer, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, presents Cpl. John R. Cooper's parents, Kim and Tom Cooper, with their son's Navy Achievement Medal, July 19, at the Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Base Chapel.



BLOOD, From A-1

“I think the word got out a bit more this time because there is a much bigger turnout than the last blood drive we held,” said Gonzalez. “I hope the word continues to get out to people so it can only grow bigger every time.”

Stations were set in order. Pulses were checked and questions were asked to ensure the person was completely eligible as a donor.

After donating, service members received items of appreciation, along with cookies and juice to make them feel a bit better.

“I’ve been donating blood for over twenty years now, and I’ll continue to keep donating for a long time,” said Master Sgt. Antonio Sears, staff non-commissioned officer-in-charge of the inbound section, IPAC, Headquarters Battalion. “It’s not painful, and it’s something you can do that you know will affect people’s lives.”

Gonzalez hopes to hold a blood drive at the IPAC, inbound, at least once every 60 days to keep supplies up.

“We like to have them here because it’s a place where most service members are guaranteed to know the location,” said Gonzalez. “The only way we plan on moving it is if too many people come, and we don’t have enough room. But that wouldn’t be a bad thing.”

If people are interested in donating blood, but missed the IPAC blood drive, they can still donate at the Tripler Army Medical Center from Monday through Friday.

Service members interested in holding their own blood drives on base for their units can contact Gonzalez at 227-9267 or e-mail Rex.Gonzalez@usmc.mil.



Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Master Sgt. Antonio Sears, staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the inbound section, Installation Personnel Administration Center, Headquarters Battalion, donates blood on July 13 at the blood drive.

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quotable

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“The real and lasting victories are those of peace, and not of war.” — Ralph Waldo Emerson